I

DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

YEAR 1966

D U L V E R T O N R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

List of Rural District Councillors as at 31st December, 1966.

Chairman — Mr. H.S. Holman,
Little Marsh, Dulverton.

Vice. Chairman — Mr. I.J. Kemp,
High Street, Dulverton.

Miss B.K. Abbot
Mrs M. Bovill
Mr. D.C. Clapp
Mr. D.R. Clayton
Mr. C. Denscombe
Mr.J. Hayes
Mr. A. Herbert
Mr F.L. Herniman
Mr. W.J. Marke
Group Capt. K.A. Meek
Major M.P. Morris
Mr. R.C. Newton
Mr. J. Richards
Mrs M.M. Smail
Mr. A.B. Smallridge
Mr. V.W.J. Stevens
Brig. A.E. Snow
Mr. R.L.V. Wilkes

The Public Health Committee consists of the Council as a whole.

Clerk to the Council — R.W. Halse Esq., Solicitor.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS FOR THE DISTRICT

Part Time Medical Officer of Health
Dr. G. Nicholson M.D., D.P.H., F.R.C.S.

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor
Mr. R.J. Organ, A.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.,A.I.P.H.E.

Technical Assistant in Public Health Inspector's Office
Mr. G.O. Jones

Clerk
Mrs M.R. Davenport

Official Address and Telephone No. of the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector.

Council Offices,
Exmoor House,
DULVERTON,
Somerset.

Telephone ; DULVERTON 521/2.

TO THE

DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health of the Dulverton Rural District during the year 1966.

The headings are those formulated by the Ministry of Health.

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area:	78,159 acres
Population:	4120 (1966 estimate)
Number of inhabited houses as per rate books	1479
Sum represented by a Penny Rate:	£325
Social Conditions:	The vast majority of the inhabitants are engaged on agricultural pursuits and appear to be exceptionally healthy in consequence.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1966

	Total	Male	Female
Live Births Legitimate	47	29	18
Live Births Illegitimate	4	1	3
Deaths from all causes	40	18	22
Still Births	1	1	-
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	12.1		
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	9.7		
Corrected DeathRate	8.7		
Corrected Birth Rate	12.1		

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER AGE OF 4 WEEKS = NIL

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

No particular disease was unduly prevalent during the year.

VACCINATIONS

Vaccinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health during 1966 in the Dulverton Rural District NIL

Medical practitioners now carry out vaccinations.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diptheria	-	-	-
Measles	18	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia... ...	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Erysipelas...	-	-	-
Other Diseases notifiable locally			
Influenzal Pleurisy ,..	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Acute Poliomylitis ...	-	-	-
Dysentry	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-

Deaths from Cancer

Stomach 1, Bronchus 4, Breast 1, Others 1 Total = 7

The following table gives details of the mortality from cancer which has taken place in the Dulverton Rural District during the past 13 years.

The number of Bronchial cancer cases has increased over the past 15 years.

Gastric Cancer	22	Cancer of Bowel	7
Testis	1	Ovary	3
Bladder	6	Oesophagus	9
Breast	25	Pancreas	9
Uterus	4	Prostate	3
Rectum	5	Larynx	1
Bronchus	11	Valvae	1
Brain	1	Orbit	1
Rodent Ulcer of Scalp	1	Cervix	1
Leukaemia	3	Others	13

Total = 127

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GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Nursing in the Home

Nursing is provided by the Health Dept. of the Somerset County Council and where required there is liason with the Local Authority.

Home Helps

The Home Help service is operated and controlled by the Welfare Department of the Somerset County Council, it operates in the district giving attention to chronic sick and maternity services etc., Home Helps are available in most of the parishes within the district and a supervisor resides in Dulverton. Good liason and co-operation exists between this Authority and the Home Help service organisers and their attention is frequently being drawn to deserving cases.

Infectious Diseases

Where required cases of infections diseases are removed to isolation hospitals outside the area and the necessary enquiries and investigations are carried out by the Public Health Inspector.

Midwives

The District Nurses of whom there are 4 act in this capacity.

Laboratories

Arrangements for the carrying out of Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations, Analysis of Foodstuffs etc., are made with the Somerset County Laboratory at County Hall, Taunton and with the Public Health Laboratory Service at Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals of any description within the area. Hospital accommodation for cases of infectious diseases remains unchanged.

Maternity and Nursing Homes

There are no Maternity or Nursing Homes within the area of this Authority. Where necessary maternity cases are removed to Monehead, Tiverton or Taunton Hospitals. Cases of Maternal Mortality and Pueperal Pyrexia are investigated by the County Authority. Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Clinic is held at Exmoor House, Dulverton each month.

Institutional Provisions for the care of the Mental Defective

There are no such institutions within the area of this Authority.

Diptheria Immunisations and Vaccinations.

Diptheria Immunisations, poliomyelitis and smallpox vaccinations are carried out by general practitioners and at the monthly clinic held at Exmoor House, Dulverton.

PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENT IN THE AREA

(1) Water Supply

Nine out of a total of eleven parishes in the area have a public water supply. Routine samples both for Bacteriological and Chemical examination are taken at frequent intervals during the year by the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor and the results of the samples so taken are set out in his report.

The West Somerset Water Board are the Statutory Undertakers for most public water supplies in the area of the Dulverton Rural District, the only exception being a small area at Oldways End in the parishes of Dulverton and Brushford which is supplied by the North Devon Water Board.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage

Three Village Sewerage Schemes provided several years ago by the Council serve Dulverton, Brushford and Exford. The disposal works at Dulverton are known to be working to full capacity but the standard of effluent obtained appeared to be reasonably satisfactory. It is hoped the report of the Consulting Engineers who are now investigating this scheme will be available shortly and any improvements and extensions which maybe required put in hand.

Works on the provision of a sewerage scheme to serve the Village of Winsford are due to commence early in 1967 and upon its completion a number of unsatisfactory arrangements now existing may be dispensed with.

I understand further works were carried out during the year on the preparation of a Sewerage Scheme to serve the Village of Bridgetown where a number of properties adjacent to the main road still have to rely on earth closets.

The Council will ultimately have to give consideration to improving drainage arrangements at Brompton Regis, and should further development take place at Huish Champflower also.

(3) Rivers and Stream Pollution

The pollution of rivers and streams is dealt with mainly by the Devon River Authority.

(4) Closet Accommodation

Numerous improvements were made to scattered cottages throughout the district and every encouragement is given in this respect.

(5) Schools

All schools within the area have flush lavatories although in many cases these are contained in very old buildings removed from the main school building and fall far short of modern standards. I understand the County Council are likely to allow in their 1967/8 works programme for improvements to toilet accommodation at certain schools in this area and such action is to be welcomed.

The majority of schools have kitchens attached where school meals are prepared and these premises are inspected from time to time by the Public Health Inspector to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

(6) Public Cleansing

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

(7) Sanitary Inspection of the Area

See Public Health Inspector's Report

(8) Eradication of Bedbugs

No action was required during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952

No new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1966.

My thanks are due to Mr. Organ for his assistance in compiling this report and also for his co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
Exmoor House,
DULVERTON
Somerset.

June, 1967.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1966 IN THE RURAL DISTRICT OF DULVERTON

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
10. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, STOMACH	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, BREAST	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
14. OTHER MALIGNANT AND LYMPHATIC NEOPLASMS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
17. VASCULAR LESIONS OF NERVOUS SYSTEM	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
18. CORONARY DISEASE, ANGINA	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
20. OTHER HEART DISEASE	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
21. OTHER CIRCULATORY DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
23. PNEUMONIA	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
24. BRONCHITIS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
25. OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. OTHER DEFINED AND ILL-DEFINED DISEASES	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
31. SUICIDE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

TOTAL ALL CAUSES = 40

D U L V E R T O N R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

Report of the Public Health Inspector & Surveyor for the year ending 31st December, 1966.

P R E F A C E

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my ninth Annual Report upon the work carried out by the Public Health Department as required by Statute. The report includes information required by the provisions of Ministry of Health Circular 1/67 and of other Government Departments.

The statistics and comments in the following pages again give some indication of the wide nature of duties performed, all of which however are directly linked with the maintenance and improvement of Public Health conditions in the area.

The amount of legislation which we are required to enforce continues to increase and in this connection mention should be made of the Building Regulations 1965 and of various additional Regulations connected with Food Hygiene. The amount of time I was able to devote to attending to what I consider to be the more routine duties was often far from adequate and does on occasion give cause for some matter of concern. The amount of administrative work has without doubt increased tremendously over recent years and in addition a considerable amount of time has had to be devoted to various Capital Works Schemes being undertaken by the Council. If all Statutory duties are to be thoroughly and efficiently undertaken the Council may well in the not too far distant future have to give consideration to providing additional technical staff.

In conclusion may I again express my thanks to the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Public Health and the Housing Committees, and all members of the Council and staff with particular reference to the staff of my own department for their valuable co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. J. ORGAN.

Public Health Inspector &
Surveyor.

June, 1967.

Public Health Inspector's Report for the Year ended 31st December - 1966

The total number of inspections and visits made during the year amounted to 1662 and the details below indicate the multifarious nature of these duties.

GENERAL SANITATION	
Visits in connection with Water Supplies (Main and Private Supplies)	142
Visits in connection with drainage of Private Buildings	41
Sewage Works	116
Movable Dwellings (Caravans, Tents etc.,)	48
Enforcement of Petroleum Regulation	52
Public Conveniences	22
Flood Prevention Works	43
Factories	3
Offices, Shops etc.,	7
Refuse Collection and Disposal (including Litter Collection and control)	63
Rodent Control	23
General Nuisances and Complaints	19
Schools	4
Licensed Premises	5
Miscellaneous Public Health Matters	29
New Constructional Works (Local Authority)	92
New Constructional Works (Private)	263
HOUSING	
Routine Inspections of Council Houses	44
Visits in connection with repair and maintenance of Council Houses	259
Inspections and re-inspection of private houses under Housing Acts	81
Investigation of Improvement Grant applications and Miscellaneous	32
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	
Enquiries and other Miscellaneous Matters	3
INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS	
Total Meat Inspection visits	219
Routine visits Shops and other Establishments re: enforcements of Food Hygiene Regulations	31
Miscellaneous Food Visits	10
Other Miscellaneous Visits	11
Total =	1662

H O U S I N G

(a) Council Houses

During the early part of the year a further eleven dwellings on the new Pixton Way Estate at Dulverton were completed, thus completing the whole of Phase 1 of this particular development comprising twenty-four two bedroomed Bungalows. At the end of the year the Council owned 249 dwellings representing approximately 16% of all dwellings within the district.

In July 1966 works were commenced on the erection of eight two-bedroomed Bungalows on a site at Brushford, and works were well in hand at the end of the year.

A scheme to provide a further seventeen units of accommodation on the remaining land at the Pixton Way estate was prepared by Architect's and at the end of the year was about to be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

(b) Private Housing and Action under Housing Acts

Five private dwelling houses were erected during the year as compared with eleven recorded for the previous year. A further five houses were in course of erection at the end of December.

The number of post war houses erected from 1st April 1945 to 31st December 1966 is as follows:-

Local Authority	173
Private Enterprise	87

Two cases of overcrowding were found and had not been abated by the end of the year.

An Undertaking under the Housing Act was accepted by the Council in respect of a house at Exton and informal action was taken in a number of cases with a view to essential repairs being carried out.

(c) Improvement Grants

(i) Discretionary

Number of applications and houses dealt with by Local Authority during year:-

(1) Received		(2) Approved	
Applications	No. of dwellings.	Applications	No. of dwellings
4	4	4	4

NOTE - Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during year ..... 1.

Average cost per dwelling approved during year £973

Amount of Grant payable by Local Authority £1558

(ii) Standard

1. Number of applications (a) Received 11
(b) Approved 11

2. Number of Houses where Standard Amenities have been provided 14

NOTE - Number of applications approved in respect of owner/occupiers during year 5

The figure given at (2) above indicates the No. of dwellings provided with Standard amenities during the year. The total No. provided with such amenities since the inception of the scheme is 44.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Following the survey made in 1965 at the request of the County Planning Authority of all known Caravan and Camping Sites a further survey was carried out in August 1966 on similar lines. The results obtained were similar to the previous years which gave details of sixteen different sites, the majority of which were used for the siting of one Caravan or tent only by itinerant campers for only one or two nights. No new licences were issued and the number of sites licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act remained at six. It is felt this matter may have to be given a little more attention in future years in order to affect proper control.

The site at the rear of Exmoor House, Dulverton, leased by the Council, to the Caravan Club continued in use and was extremely well managed by the resident Warden.

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Public Supplies

The Statutory Water Undertakers for the area are the West Somerset Water Board who provide supplies to all Villages with the exception of Simonsbath, Upton and Exton. A few properties at Oldways End are supplied by the North Devon Water Board.

Regular sampling of all main supplies was carried out during the year by this department, samples being submitted to both the West Somerset Water Board Chemist and the Public Health Laboratory. Results obtained are as follows:-

Supply	Total No. of samples	No. found satisfactory	No. found unsatisfactory
Dulverton & Brushford	25	24	1
Dulverton (Jury Road)	14	14	-
Brompton Regis	9	7	2
Huish Champflower	6	6	-
Bridgetown	8	2	6
Winsford	10	7	3
Skilgate (Old Supply)	6	3	3
" (New Supply)	6	5	1
Exford	8	8	-
Withypool	7	5	2
	99	81	18

The total number of samples taken showed an increase of thirty-eight over the previous year. Of the samples found unsatisfactory the majority fell only a little short of the high standard required for a public supply. In the case of the Bridgetown supply this water is not treated in any way and it is understood the Water Board are looking for an additional source of supply with possibility of providing extensions to serve the Village of Exton, and it is hoped if such an additional supply is found a proper treatment plant maybe provided.

Serious shortages occurred at Brushford during October extending over a period of three days due to a breakdown in supplies following mains re-laying. Water tankers provided emergency supplies until the normal service was resumed.

During the year the water main between Dulverton and Brushford was re-laid by the Water Board and the size of the main increased with a view to improving the supply to the Brushford reservoir.

In addition to the samples taken and submitted for Bacteriological examination samples were also taken from each main supply for chemical examination and submitted to the County Public Analyst. The results obtained are set out in the appendix to this report.

(b) Private Supplies

A total of thirty-five samples were taken from private water supplies during the year, thirty of which proved to be unsatisfactory. The majority of these unsatisfactory samples were obtained from a number of dwellings on a private estate in the Exbridge area. Investigations revealed the supply to be grossly contaminated, and as a result of informal action the old supply was abandoned and a mains supply substituted to all the dwellings concerned.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewerage systems with disposal works are provided at Dulverton, Exford and Brushford, maintenance of which is undertaken by direct labour. The Council also accept responsibility of the maintenance of a cesspool serving the hamlet at Oldways End, two cesspools at Brompton Regis and one cesspool at Dulverton serving a number of properties not connected to the main sewer at King's Corner. In addition a number of septic tanks and cesspools serving several groups of Council Houses throughout the district are also maintained.

During the year further works were undertaken by the Council's Consulting Engineers in connection with the preparation by them, acting upon instructions given by the Council, of a report upon the condition and adequacy of the Dulverton Sewerage system and Sewage Disposal Works. During the summer months a number of night tests were made which revealed some considerable degree of infiltration water entering the system. At the end of the year the detailed report of the Consulting Engineers was still awaited.

Routine sampling of Sewage Works effluents was undertaken by the Devon River Authority some results being below the standard required. It is hoped however that a higher standard of maintenance will secure an improvement in future samples.

During the year tenders were obtained in connection with the Council's proposals of providing a Sewerage Scheme for the Village of Winsford, and these works were due to be commenced early in 1967.

Further works were also carried out by the Consulting Engineers on the preparation of a scheme to serve the Village of Bridgetown, and documents are likely to be available for submission to the Ministry early in 1967.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses within this area.

REFUSE COLLECTIONS

Regular collections of household refuse were made from the majority of premises throughout the district. The frequency of collections varied from once weekly at Dulverton, Exford, Winsford and Bridgetown to once a month in some of the more outlying and scattered Parishes. No charge was made for the collection of Trade Refuse which is collected together with household refuse.

The diesel Refuse Collection Vehicle of the side loading type purchased in 1957 continued in use but in view of the age of the Vehicle and due to the increase in the bulk of the material being collected the Council gave consideration to the purchase of a new Vehicle of increased capacity and demonstrations of a new Karrier Dual-Tip, fore and aft Refuse Collector took place over a period of three days during August. On the demonstration proving satisfactory a new Vehicle of this type was duly ordered in October for delivery early in 1967. The new Vehicle with its increased capacity of 18/25 cu.yds should assist considerably the work of the men engaged on this service who for some years past have experienced difficulties in coping with the large quantities of Refuse from some of the outlying Villages.

The tip at Hawkwell Lane opened in 1965 continued in use during the year but although originally expected to provide tipping space for a number of years it is now felt an alternative site may have to be found within the next 4 - 5 years

The following schedule of Annual mileage by the Vehicle again indicates the degree by which this service has been extended during recent years.

1958	5923
1959	6372
1960	6794
1961	7147
1962	7725
1963	8508
1964	9262
1965	9594
1966	10022

The Vehicle averaged 14.1 miles per gallon of diesel fuel. Due to its increased size the new Vehicle when received will undoubtedly not be as economical to run as the old Vehicle.

The arrangement whereby the main streets of Dulverton are swept daily was continued during the year and a contribution towards the cost is received from the Somerset County Council. This work is undertaken by a part time employee.

Responsibility is also undertaken for the provision and emptying of a number of Litter Baskets in the Exmoor National Parks Area and a contribution towards the cost of this work is obtained from the Exmoor National Parks Committee.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS AND FOOD PREMISES

(a) Food Premises, Cafes etc.,

The number of food premises in the district in their respective classifications is as follows:-

(a)	Grocers and General Stores	18
(b)	Butchers	3
(c)	Bakehouses	1
(d)	Cafes and Restuarants	6
(e)	Hotels and other catering Establishments	11
(f)	School Kitchens	11
(g)	Confectioners	2
	Total =	52

Implementations of the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations has continued but it is not always possible to devote sufficient time to this important subject particularly at the height of the holiday season when in actual fact increased attention should be paid to this important subject.

Of the inspections made however these revealed the occupiers of Catering and Food Establishments were maintaining an extremely satisfactory standard, some improvements were affected following informal action and advice.

Increased attention was paid during the year to mobile food premises and delivery vans.

The following table gives information of the number of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations.

(i)	Number of Premises	52
(ii)	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	51
(iii)	Number of Premises to which Regulation 19 applys	43
(iv)	Number of Premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	43

b) Ice-Cream

No premises within the district are registered for the manufacture of Ice-Cream.

Twenty-five premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the storage and sale of Ice-Cream, an increase of one over the previous year. All retailers have satisfactory storage facilities but in view of the increased demand for 'soft' or 'loose' Ice-Cream greater attention has now to be paid to Hygiene Standards.

c) Meat and Other Foods

The two small private slaughter houses situated at Dulverton continued to be used throughout the year in connection with the three butcher's shops at Dulverton. The licences of the Slaughterhouses were renewed by the Council and having regard to the size of the Establishments the lay-out, construction and standards of maintenance are regarded as generally satisfactory. The number of animals inspected and the meat found unfit was as follows:-

	Bovines	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	197	1	881	NIL	NIL
Numbers Inspected	197	1	881	NIL	NIL

Weight of Meat Condemned in lbs

For:-

(a)	Tuberculosis	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b)	Cysticerosos	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(c)	Other	235	NIL	36	NIL	NIL
		235	NIL	36	NIL	NIL

(d) Poultry Packing Establishments

There are no such establishments within the area.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No serious outbreak of any infectious diseases were notified during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council continued to carry out their obligations under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 and a full time Inspector/Operator is employed for this purpose. All premises in the district are inspected at regular intervals with particular attention being paid to Agricultural premises and it is found that by frequent visits occupiers of the premises are continually reminded of their obligation under the Act.

Agricultural and business premises are where requested treated by the Council's Operator on a Contract basis. Approximately 90 Rodent Contracts are held ranging in price between £3 to £13. Premises under Contract are treated on average four times a year. Occupiers of such premises not wishing to avail themselves of the Contract service are treated at cost price. A number of properties in the area are now being serviced by private firms undertaking this work.

Any infestations reported at private dwellings houses were investigated by the Rodent Operator and dealt with free of charge. Frequent visits were paid by the Rodent Operator to the Refuse Tip at Oldways End when satisfactory results were achieved by treatment and infestations kept to a minimum.

Routine test baiting of the Council's Sewers, Sewerage Systems and Sewage Disposal Works was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry but no serious infestations were found.

The following table is an extract from the Annual Report on Rats and Mice as required by the Ministry for the year ending 31st December, 1966.

			TYPE OF PROPERTY	
			Non Agricultural	Agricultural
PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS				
Number of properties in district			1374	444
(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification			314	303
(b) Number infested by	(i)	Rats	191	297
	(ii)	Mice	225	6
(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification			2	2
(b) Number infested	(i)	Rats	-	1
	(ii)	Mice	-	-

APPENDIX 1 TYPICAL RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES (IN PARTS PER MILLION)

TEST	SOURCE									
	DULVERTON AND BRUSHFORD	DULVERTON (JURY ROAD)	SKILGATE NEW	SKILGATE OLD	WINSFORD	WITHYPOOL	BRIDGETOWN	EXFORD	BROMPTON REGIS	HUISH CHAMPFLOWER
PHYSICAL CHARACTERS	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear Bright	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright
Reaction	NEUTRAL	SLIGHTLY ACIDIC	SLIGHTLY ACIDIC	ACIDIC	SLIGHTLY ACIDIC	ACIDIC	SLIGHTLY ALKALINE	SLIGHTLY ACIDIC	SLIGHTLY ACIDIC	SLIGHTLY ACIDIC
p.H.	7.0	6.9	6.3	5.3	6.7	5.6	7.4	6.50	6.4	6.5
Free Carbon Dioxide	7.0	8.0	15.0	23.0	4.0	24.0	13.5	5.0	6.0	7.0
Total Solids	105.0	130.0	70.0	70.0	75.0	35.0	95.0	85.0	95.0	85.0
Total Alkanirity (as Ca Co 3)	50.0	60.0	40.0	10.0	25.0	15.0	30.0	20.0	25.0	45.0
Total Hardness	25.0	80.0	50.0	25.0	35.0	15.0	50.0	35.0	45.0	50.0
Chloride (as C.l.)	14.0	18.0	12.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	15.0
Ammonical Nitrogen (as N)	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.004	0.002	NIL	NIL	0.002	0.002	0.002
Albuminoid	0.016	0.016	0.004	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.024	0.016	0.014	0.006
Nitrate	2.0	2.8	0.8	1.0	0.8	NIL	2.0	1.0	6.0	0.02
Nitrite	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Oxygen Absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs at 270 C.	0.20	0.10	NIL	NIL	0.025	NIL	0.15	0.20	0.10	NIL
Sediment	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE
Iron	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.05	NIL	NIL	0.05	NIL	NIL
Copper	NIL	0.1	NIL	NIL	0.6	0.05	NIL	NIL	0.05	NIL
Zinc	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Lead	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

DULVERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1966

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(*i*) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2.	4.	—	—
(*ii*) Factories not included in (*i*) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	19.	9.	2.	—
(*iii*) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...				
Total ...	21.	13.	2.	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (*a*) Insufficient					
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective ...	2.	2.		2.	
(*c*) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)					
Total ...	2.	2.	—	2.	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel — Making, &c. ...						
Wearing apparel — Cleaning and Washing						
Household Linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery ...						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles ...				NIL		
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys ...						
Umbrellas, &c.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets ...						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls ...						

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Contd.)

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c. ...				NIL		
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats ...						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, &c.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL ...						